

Virginia Department of Health
Office of Licensure and Certification

Long Term Care Facility Fact Sheet

Nursing Facilities

- "Nursing home" means any facility or any identifiable component of any facility licensed pursuant to this article in which the primary function is the provision, on a continuing basis, of nursing services and health-related services for the treatment and inpatient care of two or more nonrelated individuals, including facilities known by varying nomenclature or designation such as convalescent homes, skilled nursing facilities or skilled care facilities, intermediate care facilities, extended care facilities and nursing or nursing care facilities. A certified nursing facilities is a nursing facility approved to receive Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement.
 - A nursing facility should not be confused with an Assisted Living Facility (ALF) which is licensed by the Department of Social Services
 - Nursing Facilities may be free-standing or
 - May part of an Assisted Living Facility (ALF) complex or Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC).
 - Such ALFs and CCRCs are dually licensed by DSS and VDH
- State law requires that all nursing facilities obtain a license in order to operate in Virginia.
 - §32.1-125 of the Code of Virginia
 - The Virginia Department of Health's Office of Licensing and Certification (OLC) inspects each nursing facility as required by state and federal law.
- There are more than 270 nursing facilities
 - Range in size from 18 to 315 beds located through out Virginia.
 - 24-hour staffing required
- Nursing facilities are designated I-2 for purposes of zoning and compliance with the Uniform Statewide Building Code
- Residents of nursing facilities should be considered non-ambulatory and will need the assistance of another person in an emergency
 - All facilities should be hardened for emergencies,
 - First option is to shelter in place
 - Seek evacuation when local authorities determine facility is unsound or unsafe
- State regulation (12VAC5-371) requires that nursing facilities have emergency preparedness plans
 - OLC's web site (www.vdh.virginia.gov/olc) has guidelines specific to emergency plan development

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for nursing facilities

Hospice Facilities

- "Hospice facility" means an institution, place, or building owned or operated by a hospice provider and licensed by the Department to provide room, board, and appropriate hospice care on a 24-hour basis, including respite and symptom management, to individuals requiring such care pursuant to the orders of a physician. Such facilities with 16 or fewer beds are exempt from Certificate of Public Need laws and regulations. Such facilities with more than 16 beds shall be licensed as a nursing facility or hospital and shall be subject to Certificate of Public Need laws and regulations.
- Residents of a hospice facility must be diagnosed terminally ill
- State law requires that all hospice facilities obtain a license in order to operate in Virginia.
 - §32.1-162.3 of the Code of Virginia
 - The Virginia Department of Health's Office of Licensing and Certification (OLC) inspects each nursing facility as required by state and federal law.
- As of 2008, there are 3 known hospice facilities
 - Currently 6 or less beds
 - 24 hour staffing required
 - Hospice facilities with 16 or less beds can be located in single family neighborhoods
 - Residents should be considered nonambulatory; need assistance of another person in an emergency
 - Facility should be hardened for emergencies
 - First option is to shelter in place
 - Seek evacuation when local authorities determine facility is unsound or unsafe
- State regulation (12VAC5-391) requires all hospice facilities to have emergency preparedness plans
 - OLC's web site (www.vdh.virginia.gov/olc) has guidelines specific to emergency plan development for hospice providers and facilities